DAMAGE TO CROPS BY PESTS—PREVENTION OF

166. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have seen the Inspection Report of the Alur Acqueduct and the lands irrigated by it by the Chief Engineer on November 12, 1941;

(*b*) whether the Government have noted the hint of the Chief Engineer in the Report that there are "indications of damage by pests" and in this aspect, inviting the Department of Agriculture to take the necessary "effective action" in the affair;

(*c*) whether the Chief Engineer has referred that pests have already begun to affect about 1/3 of the field;

(*d*) if so, what urgent steps are taken by the Government to save crops?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The paddy pest referred to is the rice bug. At present the attack is not very serious. The method of hand-netting in the presence of the land owners near the Alur Acqueduct was demonstrated.

VOLUME OF TRADE—PORT OF COCHIN AND MATTANCHERI

167. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to state the volume and value, if possible, of trade that passed through the Port of Cochin or Mattancheri, in the years 1938—39, 1939—40 and 1940—41, as per statistics of (1) sea-borne trade according to the customs collected in the Port of Cochin; (2) according to the imports and exports from the Harbour as per statistics of landing and shipping in the Port; (3) as per Railway records of goods that arrived and were despatched from the Out-Agency, Mattancheri, Harbour Terminus and Ernakulam Goods Station; (4) as given in the Administration Reports of the Harbour by the Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief of the Cochin Harbour?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* A statement showing the imports and exports at the Port of Cochin for the years 1938—39, 1939—40 and 1940—41 as per statistics collected by the Port Authorities is appended *(Appendix I)*. Government do not consider it necessary or expedient to give any further particulars.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* In the appendix you have given only the tonnage of the goods. I have asked for the tonnage and value, but only volume is given in the answer.

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* You have asked "volume and value, if possible." There are certain difficulties to give the value of trade, because these are war years. These figures are not even supplied to the Chambers of Commerce, since it is considered inadvisable to give them. Mr. Govinda Pai will corroborate my statement that values are not given now-a-days.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How is the customs collected?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* They collect it, but the point is they do not publish it.

Mr. President: That is confidential.

TERMINAL CHARGES—LEVY OF—HARBOUR TERMINUS STATION

168. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to state the quantities of goods on which terminal charges have been levied at Ernakulam or the Harbour Terminus railway stations in the years 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The information is not available.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are they not collecting terminal charges?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes, but the return supplied by the station here, does not give separate figures for goods, whether transit duties are levied, whether reduced transit duties are levied or whether no transit duties are levied. When we addressed the railway authorities they said that if you want separate figures it would mean the establishment of a costly staff.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are they not collecting terminal charges?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. To single out terminal charges out of a mass of papers is very difficult.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How are terminal charges collected?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Terminal charges are collected on certain goods, but the point is, the returns furnished by the railway station here do not give separate

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APPENDIX I

(See Answer to Question 167)

Tonnage of goods imported and exported at the Port of Cochin

Imports	*1938-39*	*1939-40*	*1940-41*
Grains and pulse ..	3,90,636	4,55,434	3,16,453
Kerosene, petrol and other oils ..	1,13,776	1,26,588	1,17,493
Coal	11,727	14,674	14,407
Sugar	3,014	13,172	52
Machinery, etc.	15,048	8,714	7,418
Cement	4,773	4,171	139
Miscellaneous	51,576	55,629	67,902
Total ..	**5,90,550**	**6,78,382**	**5,23,864**
Exports	*1938-39*	*1939-40*	*1940-1941*
Coir produce	36,819	45,414	31,735
Tea	23,977	34,322	37,829
Cocoanut oil	10,950	7,997	4,059
Rubber	10,272	14,411	14,822
Cocoanuts	9,102	9,106	12,670
Cashew-nuts and kernals ..	11,956	17,127	19,077
Miscellaneous	92,509	1,43,964	1,34,767
Total ..	**1,95,585**	**2,72,341**	**2,54,959**
Grand Total ..	**7,86,135**	**9,50,723**	**7,78,823**

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